

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the Abstract on page 32 with the following rewritten Abstract:

A technique for processing input data is provided. Multiple input rows to be loaded into a first structure are received. Each input row of the multiple input rows is processed to classify each input row as one of an insert row and an update row, wherein input duplicates are stored in the first structure and index entries for the input duplicates are stored in a second structure. After the multiple input rows have been processed, the input duplicates are automatically re-applied to the first structure and the index entries stored in the second structure are processed.

~~Also provided is a technique for processing input data in which one or more input rows are loaded into an output table, and wherein index entries for input rows are stored in a first structure and discarded input rows are stored in a third structure. Periodically, the loading of the one or more input rows is interrupted to perform an index merge, wherein input duplicates for which corresponding index entries in the first structure are not added to an index are stored in a second structure. It is determined whether to add data for one or more discarded input rows in the third structure to the second structure. When it is determined that data for one or more discarded input rows in the third structure are to be added to the second structure, data for the discarded input rows are added to the second structure. Input duplicates and discarded input rows for which data is stored in the second structure are automatically re-applied to the output table.~~

Please replace paragraph 66 on page 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:
[0066] In block 742, ~~the this input row is to be truly discarded~~ input duplicates processor 244 removes input duplicates from the output table using the row id from the input duplicates structure. In block 744, the input duplicates processor 244 applies input duplicates to the matching original rows in the output table. Additionally, events (such as to perform aggregations, other index operations, etc.) may be sent to other components. At this point, the sorted input duplicates structure includes additional data (e.g., row id to retrieve data from the output table and/or column values (e.g., from the input table and/or the output table)). For each primary key, the input duplicates in the sorted input duplicates structure are sorted using their

sequence number, so that the order reflects the input order. Then, the input duplicates processor 244 applies the input duplicates in the sorted input duplicates structure to the output table, one by one. Again, a row is discarded if the row does not satisfy any conditions, otherwise, the row is used to update a row in the output table by using any specified operators and expressions.